

NOTES ON EDUCATION.

An endeavor to abolish the teaching of Spanish in the San Francisco evening schools has just failed. The language is found to be too useful to business in that region to be given up.

Encouraging reports as to the progress of public education are constantly coming from Georgia. Interest in education is rapidly increasing from year to year and the subject is coming to the front as the first social interest of the State.

The famous old English schools, Eton and Harrow, Rugby and Winchester, are constantly full to overflowing, although their cost constantly increases. Oxford and Cambridge were never so crowded with students as now.

President Gaines, of the Kentucky Teachers' Association, declares with reason that there is too much arithmetic taught in our common schools, and too much of so-called grammar. Better, he thinks, is the teaching of a denominational school than no moral teaching at all.

The German newspapers state that the project of establishing a German University in America is actually approaching realization. A bureau for advancing the matter is to be opened at Frankfort, and many of the most distinguished professors of the German universities are on the committee.

Women teachers in Germany are far from well paid. Salaries begin at \$200 and never exceed \$500. When they retire, however, they receive pensions. Retirement at the end of ten years' service secures one-fourth of the annual salary given; and for every year of service added to the ten one-eighth of the pay is given.

In the Cambridge (England) system of instruction by correspondence for women the subjects taken up are English history, languages and literature, the ancient and modern classics, arithmetic and algebra, the science of music, domestic and classical science, etc. A Teachers' Education Loan Committee makes available money for fees on loan without interest to correspondents for students, provided that they fulfill the conditions of the committee.

The Marquis of Salisbury said at a recent public meeting in London that it seemed to him that the great difficulty was to find arguments against the extension of higher education to women rather than to find arguments in favor of it. If such education were valuable to those who had to make their way in the world and to their bread, it was as valuable to women as to men; if it gave robustness to the character and refinement to the intellect, surely those qualities were as admirable in the female sex as in the male.

No subject is taught in the French primary schools that is not deemed absolutely necessary for all citizens, and all the subjects which are to be studied by a boy at school are given to him in his first year therein. These are only six: Reading, writing, arithmetic, French grammar, French history and general geography. The difference between the first and the third year is simply between an elementary and a complete way of treating the same subject. The French way of rewarding a successful teacher is to promote him from a provincial school to a Parisian one, or to make him an inspector.

Retrenchment in the San Francisco School Department is going on relentlessly. The Bulletin incidentally points out that this retrenchment ought to be carried into other departments of the City Government, and mentions an excess of official subordinates that might well be pruned away. It is probably useless to hope for any action in this direction; it is always the school department in every city and town which bears the burden of all retrenchment. This is inevitable, of course, so long as the management of the schools is so intimately associated with politics. It is the vote that counts, not Justice nor efficacy.

It is stated that the great majority of women who are asking for the benefits of a University education in England have no private means, and it is urged that they be not shut out from scholarships at the Universities as they have been shut out from scholarships at preparatory schools. In many parts of the country the Endowed Schools Commission has been redistributing old-endowments, soas to increase the benefits to be derived from them, and to extend them to a larger number of persons. But for the last part of these improvements have been made to apply to boys only. Girls have still been left to find for themselves what boys are fortunate enough to have found for them.

The Rev. Robert E. Thompson is to be Dean of the Faculty of the new Wharton School of Finance and Economy at Philadelphia. He will also act as professor of Social Science. The University of Pennsylvania, with which the school is connected, will give an appropriate degree on the completion of the three years' course of study in the school and on the presentation of a satisfactory thesis. The fees for instruction in this school are \$150 a year, and the graduation fee is \$20. Those who wish to pursue any special study in the department of the school can make arrangements to do so. The text books and material used in the first or sub-junior year are E. Pesline Smith's "Political Economy," Thompson's "National Economics" and Johnston's "History of American Politics." Instruction is to be given by reputation and lecture, and through original research, under the direction of the professors.

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